Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119942 ORIGIN IO-13

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 119942

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB, ILO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ITALIAN UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOSCHI: DISCUSSION OF ILO

SUMMARY: UNDER SECRETARY FOSCHI MET MONDAY AFTERNOON WITH IO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARIES BAKER AND DALLEY TO DISCUSS ILO SITUATION IN DETAIL. FOSCHI MADE CLEAR HIS WILLINGNESS TO BE HELPFUL AT ILO JUNE CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, HIS EMPHASIS WAS ON A MEDIATORY ROLE FOR ITALY. FOSCHI EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT EFFECTS OF AMERICAN WITHDRAWAL ON BALANCE OF POWER IN ILO. DEPT OFFICERS STRESSED THAT DANGER OF US WITHDRAWAL WAS REAL AND THAT CONCRETE, VISIBLE PROGRESS ON ISSUES OF CONCERN WAS NECESSARY IF WITHDRAWAL WAS TO BE AVOIDED. END SUMMARY.

1. FOSCHI OPENED WITH AN EXPRESSION OF UNDERSTANDING FOR "USG'S PROBLEMS WITH AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT" AND STATEMENT OF HIS INTENTION TO MEET WITH AFL-CIO (MOLISONI) DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT TO "MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND THEY SHOULD NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 119942

ASSUME INTRANSIGENT ATTITUDE THUS BRINGING US TO PLACE OF ISOLATION IN WORLD COMMUNITY." FOSCHI ASKED IF "THIS GAP CANNOT BE CLOSED AT JUNE CONFERENCE, SHOULD ITALY SUPPORT USG AGAINST AFL-CIO?" DEPT OFFICERS EXPLAINED CLC TO FOSCHI AND ASSURED HIM US APPROACH TO ILO PROBLEM WAS

JOINTLY DETERMINED AND THAT US FRONT WAS UNTIED.

- 2. FOSCHI WARNED IF US LEAVES ILO, IT WILL BECOME "HAPPY HUNTING GROUND FOR THIRD WORLD ATTACKS ON IMEC STATES;" DEPT OFFICERS REPLIED THAT UNLESS WE REFORM AND DEPOLITICIZE ILO, IT WILL BECOME THAT IN ANY CASE.
- 3. FOSCHI SAID ITALY WOULD HAVE "GREAT DIFFICULTY" FOLLOWING US OUT OF ILO. DEPT OFFICERS REPLIED THAT WE WERE NOT TRYING TO ORGANIZE A WALKOUT OF OTHER COUNTRIES.
- 4. FOSCHI OFFERED CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH USDEL GENEVA AND EVEN OFFERED TO GO TO GENEVA PERSONALLY IF USDEL THINKS IT WOULD BE USEFUL. FOSCHI OFFERED IN PARTICULAR TO APPROACH LIBYANS, BUT WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT RESULTS.
- 5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE CABLE DEPT YOUR THOUGHTS RE FOSCHI VISIT TO GENEVA PER PARA 4 ABOVE, WITH COPY TO ROME. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

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FOSCHI MET MONDAY AFTERN

TAGS: ELAB, US, IT, ILO, (FOSCHI, FRANCO), (BAKER, JOHN A), (DALLEY, GEORGE A),

To: GENEVA

Type: TE

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